

The Illinois Club Minutes, 3/27/2017

The Illinois Club Board met at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 27, 2017, at the home of Julia Schmidt. Attending were Ann Campbell, Julia Schmidt, Kathy Marshak, Sandy Camargo, Libby Johnston, Patty Gropp, Marita Romine, Sheila Krein, Jenny Kokini, Carroll Finnegan-Bunick, and Cathy Jackson. The meeting was called to order by President Ann Campbell.

President, Ann Campbell

The president welcomed the board.

Meetings, reported by Kathy Marshak and Julia Schmidt

The Scholarship Brunch went well. The club was happy with the venue and the food, which was a lighter menu than previous years. Better attendance would be desirable.

The Spring Luncheon will be held at the Urbana Country Club on May 4. We are negotiating the location of the piano, but a backup option would be to use an electric piano. A microphone will be provided. We will use the east banquet door, which has no steps. Lunch will be a sandwich and salad buffet – roast beef, turkey, ham, and cheese sandwiches, mixed greens, coleslaw, lettuce and tomato for the sandwiches, and a couple of kinds of cookies. Cost to the club is \$13.50 per person, plus 18% gratuity (no tax). We will charge \$18 for members and \$23 for guests. The speaker, speaker's lunch, and any student lunches will come from club funds. The program will be an opera program, and the speaker is Julie Gunn of the Lyric Theatre. We will need a final count by April 24. The flyer needs to go to communications soon.

Treasurer and Budget, reported by Jenny Kokini and Marita Romine

Balance sheet and account details were handed out and briefly discussed. The only additions to the printed documents were gift cards for the scholarship interview and the \$240 room charge for the scholarship brunch.

The April mailing for the Spring Luncheon needs to include renewal information.

Membership, reported by Patty Gropp

There are 226 members total.

Patty will go to the new faculty orientation to provide information about the club and recruit new members.

A stretch goal would be to recruit 150 new members for next year. To do this, membership and newcomers will need to think outside the box.

Newcomers, reported by Ann Campbell

Ann will host a wine and cheese event for newcomers. Newcomers were also invited to the April CU4Dinner. Newcomers will receive a special invitation to the Spring Luncheon.

Interest Groups, reported by Carrol Finnigan-Bunick

The mentor interest group is not really integrated into the club. Carrol will contact Christina to inquire about the mentor interest group. Also, this is the time of year to consider new interest groups for next year.

Scholarship, reported by Sandy Camargo

The scholarship brunch went well. We awarded 10 scholarships for a total of \$25,900. Much of the money awarded comes from our three endowments: the Ikenberry, the Purnell, and the contributions of our members. Currently, communication between the Foundation and the scholarship committee about the exact amount available to be awarded does not occur until late in the process. The club will attempt to move the communication earlier in the process, with the president and the treasurer communicating with the Foundation rather than the committee communicating with the Foundation.

There are currently 7 people on the scholarship committee, but there could be more. 7 to 9 is a good number, with an odd number better for voting. Various systems will be considered to streamline the evaluation process, out of respect for the committee members' time.

Tours, reported by Sheila Krein

16 people are signed up so far for the tour of Flesor's Candy Kitchen in Tuscola on April 12 (joint tour between Tours and the Antiques and Collectibles Interest Group).

Sheila is working on a tour of the State Farm Center, possibly May 24. Tour could be at 4 PM with an optional dinner. There is no charge for a tour of the State Farm Center, and tours run 45 minutes to an hour and a half, depending on the number of questions.

Annette Buckmaster, who will be working with Sheila on tours next year, has proposed a tour to the Indianapolis Art Museum on June 24, and there are some other arts and crafts things going on in Indianapolis during that time frame. Annette is looking into the possibility of a bus, since parking during that event is challenging, but reserving a bus would require members to lock in an early commitment for the event.

Communications, reported by Libby Johnston

Communications needs all information for the spring mailing by mid-April. Aim for April 13 to get information to Libby and Kathy Valdes. The spring mailing will probably be four pages and will include information on the State Farm tour, the new board, the Spring Luncheon, and membership renewal.

Corresponding Secretary

No report this meeting.

Webmaster

The board is very appreciative of Mike's ongoing support of the web, and of the video clips from the Scholarship Brunch.

Old Business, reported by Libby Johnston

Sesquicentennial: Members involved: Sheila, Libby (who will also provide publicity), Alice Taylor, Julia, Cinda, possibly Judith. We hope to get someone from each of the specific buildings on the tour to talk about their buildings. We would do 5 or so locations near the quad. We still need organizers and volunteers for this event.

New Business, reported by Ann Campbell

Big 10 Conference: The conference is June 16-18 in Minnesota. Incoming president, outgoing president, and possibly treasurer should go. TIC pays the conference fee, mileage, and hotel.

We have a budget surplus. We need a small cushion, but we could probably put a few thousand dollars into the endowment without raising dues and still maintain a large enough cushion.

It would be good if we had more publicity and visibility next year if possible. We will be present at the New Hire event.

Next Board Meeting

Potluck with old board and new board at Ann's, tentatively Tuesday, May 9.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Jackson, Recording Secretary